

# CALL OF THE CANYON

SEPTEMBER 2023 - OCTOBER 2023

## Calendar of Events

### Birds of Johnson Canyon

Join a Park Ranger for a morning birding adventure. Great for all experience levels.

- Sunday, 9/10
  - 8:30 am - 10 am

### Star Party

Gaze at the cosmos and peer through a telescope on this nighttime presentation.

- Friday, 09/15
  - 8:30 pm - 10 pm

### Scorpion Safari

Learn about this misunderstood arachnid as we search for them under the night sky.

- Saturday, 09/16
  - 8:30 pm - 9:30 pm

### Sunset Hike

Soak in the sunset views of Snow Canyon on this guided hike.

- Saturday, 9/23
  - 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm
- Friday, 10/20
  - 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

### Welcome Fall!

Celebrate the first day of fall with a Ranger-guided hike.

- Sunday, 9/24
  - 10:00 am - 11:30 am

### Full Moon Hike

Hike across sandstone under the light of the full moon.

- Friday, 9/29
  - 8:30 pm - 9:30 pm

### Geology Hike with Utah Tech

We're excited to welcome a special guest from Utah Tech University for this hike.

- Wednesday, 10/04
  - 5:15 pm - 6:45 pm
- Registration will be done through Utah Tech. See our website for more information.

*Events continued on next page.*

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### Desert Tortoise Week

The first week of October is Desert Tortoise Week! Find pop-up booths in the park throughout the week, keep up with us on social media, and join us for the big celebration on Friday.

- **Tortoise Hike:** *Join a ranger on a guided hike through prime tortoise territory.*
  - Friday, 10/06
  - 9 am-10 am
- **Tortoise Celebration:** *Snow Canyon & Red Cliffs Desert Reserve will be at Upper Galoot with games and information. No registration required.*
  - Friday, 10/06
  - 11 am- 1 pm

### Eclipse Viewing Party

Watch the eclipse and wonder at the sky with Snow Canyon. Early arrival encouraged. No registration required.

- Saturday, 10/14
  - 8:30 am - 12:00 pm
  - Upper Galoot Picnic Area

### Moon & Planet Party

It's *International Observe the Moon Night!* Look at our moon and other planets through a telescope.

- Saturday, 10/21
  - 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm

### Halloween Moon

Enjoy a spooky night hike under the full moon.

Costumes encouraged!

- Saturday, 10/28
  - 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

### Jr. Ranger Storytime

Join a Ranger as they lead a Halloween-themed story time.

- Sunday, 10/29
  - 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

*All listed events are free and open to the public.*

*Space is limited; registration required unless otherwise noted. **Program registration is held two days preceding the scheduled event.***

*Register by phone or in person. For more information or to register for a program, contact park staff at (435) 628-2255.*



# Trail Highlight: Upper Gila

If you're a hiker who loves stunning views and overlooks, then the Gila Trail is begging for your attention.

The trail begins just behind the parking lot at the north entrance, with soft sand giving way to packed dirt and dispersed lava rock. Sand sage, banana yucca, cholla cacti, and a host of other plants bring yellows, blues, and

greens to the red and orange rock of the canyon. While the trail continues all the way to Paradise Canyon, one mile into the Gila Trail is the Snow Canyon Scenic Overlook—a perfect place to stop when heat prevents long hiking. From the overlook, you can see



almost the entire canyon, from the white rocks in the north to the sand dunes in the south, and the petrified dunes in between. To get to the Snow Canyon Overlook, plan for two miles round trip and lots of “oooh” and “aaahhh” sounds while gazing at the entirety of Snow Canyon (it's so pretty, big feelings are inevitable, we get it). Remember to get out early in the morning when hiking in the heat, and bring lots of water. The Gila Trail awaits!

-Ranger Josey

## **Snow Canyon State Park**

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